

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

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FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7625

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, ECON, JM

SUBJECT: PM MANLEY COMMENTS ON COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERN-
MENT NEW ECONOMIC ORDER

REF: KINGSTON 1713

1. ACCORDING TO THE DAILY GLEANER, PM MANLEY SAID THE
ACHIEVEMENT OF A CONSENSUS ON MEASURES TO WORK TOWARD
A NEW ECONOMIC ORDER WAS "A SIGNIFICANT CONCEPTUAL
BREAK THROUGH". IN VIEW OF THE SPIRIT IN WHICH THE
CONFERENCE ENDED, HE HOPED THAT THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE
(SEPTEL) " COULD BECOME KNOWN AS THE CONCORD OF KINGSTON
AS A COMPANION PIECE TO THE SPIRIT OF OTTAWA". SPEAKING
AT A PRESS CONFERENCE FOLLOWING THE END OF THE MEETING,
MANLEY COMMENTED THAT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMITTEE
OF EXPERTS WAS NOT AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID THE ISSUES.
THE PROBLEMS INVOLVED WERE DIFFICULT AND NEEDED EXPERTS, AND
THE ONLY WAY TO GET AWAY FROM RHETORIC WAS TO DISCUSS
SPECIFICS.

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2. THE GLEANER STORY ALSO STATED THAT MANLEY DISCUSSED

ECONOMIC ISSUES WITH WILSON (UK), GOWAN (NIGERIA), NYERERE (TANZANIA), AND INDIAN FOREIGN MINISTER CHAVAN IN A SERIES OF SEPARATE MEETINGS. THERE WAS APPARENTLY CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN ACHIEVING FINAL AGREEMENT ON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS. ACCORDING TO THE GLEANER "HARD BARGAINING RESULTED IN MAJOR SHIFTS PARTICULARLY IN THE BRITISH POSITION WHICH AS ORIGINALLY SUBMITTED HAD BEEN CONFINED TO A PROPOSAL FOR A GENERAL AGREEMENT ON COMMODITIES AND STABILIZATION OF PRICES. THE BRITISH WERE MOVED TO ACCEPT THAT THE REFORM OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY AND FINANCE SYSTEM SHOULD BE PART OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCES TO THE GROUP OF EXPERTS AS WELL AS THE PRINCIPLE OF THE REAL TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY FROM THE DEVELOPED TO THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. CONCESSIONS FROM THE CARIBBEAN AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES POINT OF VIEW WERE IN TERMS OF SUPPORT OF WORKING TOWARD INCREASED PRODUCTION".,

3. COMMENT: GLEANER HEADLINED STORY AS CONCORD OF KINGSTON, AND WE EXPECT IT WILL BE HAILED LOCALLY AS ANOTHER VICTORY FOR SUPER MANLEY. FACT PM COMMENTED ESTABLISHMENT OF STUDY GROUP NOT ATTEMPT TO AVOID ISSUE APPEARS TO INDICATE REACTION TO SOME LDC CRITICISM THAT IT WAS A "COP OUT" AFTER ALL. GERARD

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